



NJ Retreads Motorcycle Club

Newsletter for **MARCH - APRIL 2024**

Early Spring 2024

Ride Schedule and Multiple Time Changes

SUNDAY RIDES DEPART -----> **9:00am**

NEW! WEDNESDAY DEPARTURES -----> **8:30am**

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME INITIATES ---> **Sunday, March 10th**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Scott Anderson of Moorestown
Rosa Juarbe of Cherry Hill
Rick Vargo of Mt. Royal
Mark Whitley of Laurel Springs

To Prospective Members

We are an easy-going group of motorcyclists who do day rides throughout the tri-state area. We ride Wednesdays and Sundays, year round, as long as roads are dry. All brands are welcome. No meetings and few rules. We ask little more than your good company and a nominal annual dues. If you are age 40 and above, we invite you to join us. Read the contents herein to appreciate the beauty and simplicity of what we are about.

Mar-Apr Schedule

SUNDAY

Rides depart 9am

March

3 Woodstown D.

10 Elmer Diner ***

17 Point 40 Diner

24 Pegasus Diner

31 Elmer Diner

April

7 Mays Landing D.

14 Point 40 Diner

21 Vincentown D.

WEDNESDAY

Rides depart 8:30am

March

6 Elmer Diner

13 Mays Landing D.

20 Point 40 Diner

27 Vincentown D.

April

3 Harrison House

10 Elmer Diner

17 Point 40 Diner

24 Pegasus Diner

***Begin Daylight Savings Time

Helpful Tips To Make Your Experience More Enjoyable

SCHEDULING

Use your phone to take a screen shot of this ride schedule.

BREAKFAST

Arrive an hour prior to the specified departure time to share in breakfast and conversation.

THE RULE ON FUEL

Gas up prior to the specified departure time. This is a must: it is not a suggestion.

Enjoy !

NEW MEMBERS JOINING MONTHLY!

Welcome

Scott Anderson of Moorestown
Rosa Juarbe of Cherry Hill
Rick Vargo of Mt. Royal

2024 Retread Officers

R. Denny Blew, State Director
856 498 9208

Steve Gallagher, Asst State Director
856 297 4141

David Somers, Membership Officer
609 226 2330

Claudine Gallagher, Club Photographer

Administrative Office:
35 Smith Bowen Rd, Galloway, NJ 08205

NJ Retreads 2024 — EXISTING MEMBER RENEWAL FORM

Retreads Motorcycle Club International, Inc. - AMA Charter 3233

Join now and get it done

Member _____ Co-Member _____ Date ___/___/___

THIS MUST BE SIGNED - By voluntarily applying for membership, I understand that the Retreads cannot assume responsibility for any aspect of my safety. I understand the sport of motorcycle riding has an inherent safety hazard. I also understand that my participation in any Retread activity is strictly voluntary, and further, I release and hold harmless the Retreads from any loss to my person or property.

Applicant (sign): _____ Co-Applicant: _____

(Note—We have your contact info on file. If anything has changed, make note on reverse side.)

MAIL THIS APPLICATION - PLEASE DO NOT HAND THIS OFF TO OTHERS TO DELIVER

Mail application & payment to: David Somers - 35 N. Smith Bowen Road, Galloway, NJ 08205
\$25 couple / \$20 single amount enclosed → \$ _____ Please make payable to: NJ Retreads MC

NJ Retreads 2024 — FORM FOR NEW APPLICANT

Retreads Motorcycle Club International, Inc. - AMA Charter 3233

New Applicant _____ Co-Applicant _____ Date ___/___/___

Street Address _____

City _____ County _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phones _____ Email _____

Applicant Birthdate ___/___/___ Co-Applicant ___/___/___ AMA Member?#s? _____

THIS MUST BE SIGNED - By voluntarily applying for membership, I understand that the Retreads cannot assume responsibility for any aspect of my safety. I understand the sport of motorcycle riding has an inherent safety hazard. I also understand that my participation in any Retread activity is strictly voluntary, and further, I release and hold harmless the Retreads from any loss to my person or property.

Applicant (sign): _____ Co-Applicant: _____

Mail application & payment to: David Somers - 35 N. Smith Bowen Road, Galloway, NJ 08205
\$25 couple / \$20 single amount enclosed → \$ _____ Please make payable to: NJ Retreads MC

Administration Use Only

App Card # Issued _____ Date: ___/___/___ Co-App Card # Issued _____ Date: ___/___/___

TIPS FOR NEW (and all) MEMBERS

SCHEDULES: Rides scheduled every Wed & Sun, year round. In case of bad weather we may do 'pop-up' rides on alternative days. *Stay tuned to social media* for updates.

KICK STANDS UP (KSU): Departure times are *strictly adhered* because of planned routes. Gear up, gas up, and get your engine fired up by the designated departure time.

BREAKFASTS: Enjoy a pre-ride breakfast at the designated location. Allow 1 hour prior to KSU. Otherwise, arrive 15 minutes prior to KSU time to hear about the day's routes.

RIDES: On any day, 1-3 routes may be available. Routes announced *following breakfast*.

BECOME A RIDE LEADER: It's simple. Choose a route or destination and take us there. We encourage more ride leaders. Speak with an officer or a ride leader to learn more.

COMMON RIDE PROTOCOLS: Respect the established protocols of the NJSP: that is *staggered formation* and the *two-second rule*. No passing or side-by-side riding, and allow a 2 second time-gap between you and bike in front. Ask for more info/clarification.

RIDING STYLE: Each ride leader has his/her own unique style which they are not going to change. You are encouraged to *join up with a ride leader whose style fits your taste*.

MAKE EVERY RIDE YOUR RIDE: Ride leaders plan their routes and destinations. To hold the group together, riders must reasonably keep up and move as a unit. *If you are uncomfortable with route conditions or a ride-style, exercise your right and exit the ride*.

HELP YOUR FELLOW RIDER: Try to stay aware of *the rider following you*. If they should drop out of sight, attempt to alert the riders ahead. Should there be troubles or a breakdown, we like to have someone remain with them until a solution is found.

ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY: For your own good, *assume responsibility* for *your* ride, *your* abilities, *your* protective wear, *your* comfort level and the condition of *your* bike. Make every ride *your* ride. Also, even if you're only available a portion of the day,

the case for The Ballistic Air Vest

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In the last couple years I've seen several friends and acquaintances injured while riding. Now, this is nothing new: the more motorcycle friends you have, the more stories you hear. As I've said literally a thousand times, *"When you put on that helmet, you know what your getting into"*.

As motorcyclists, we accept the risks. But the pay-off is a great day riding in the breeze. That said, there's truth in the old adage that there are only two kinds of motorcyclists: ones that have crashed and ones that will someday! With that thought in mind, let's talk what some perceive as sacrilege..... SAFETY ! I believe all motorcyclists think about safety, but truthfully, far too few do much to improve their riding skills or gear should the worst happen. Accidents do happen, and we know it only takes a few seconds to ruin your day.

The real impetus for this article is noticing that three of the last four riders who I know that have had motorcycle misfortunes have sustained broken ribs. Surprisingly, all three incidents involved far less than excessive speed.

Personally, I do not ride without a full-face helmet, jacket, riding pants and boots, and of course, gloves. These protect you against road rash, and have pads built-in for your extremities. None of the above mentioned three, regardless of their gear, came away needing skin grafts. Yet remarkably, all three sustained broken ribs!

Like most, I started riding dirt. When you go down in dirt, it's usually not a big event. Yet it's common and readily accepted that one of your pieces of safety gear for riding dirt is a chest protector. I learned a lesson twice when learning to dirt-ride: I rode without a chest protector, and came home with injured ribs. I don't believe any ribs were actually broken, but like anyone who has had a similar injury, one adopts a new mantra while healing

DON'T LAUGH - DON'T FART - DONT COUGH - DONT SNEEZE

Did I mention we older Retreads don't heal so quickly? There could just be an easy case for the ballistic air vest. So what is it? It's a vest with a ballistic charge canister that instantly inflates into a personal airbag, hopefully cushioning you in the event of a fall or crash. Of course, this is a simplified and generalized description. I'm in the process of more thoroughly exploring them myself. I highly recommend doing your own research to look into the details and what could fit your desires and budget.

Safety gear may be imperfect, but what if instead of six broken ribs, you only had two? Would that be that worth the price tag? Lately I've seen a KLIM ballistic vest @ \$399.99. I'd gladly slide my Visa card to make my injuries go away. Maybe slide it now and hope you'll never need it and you'll have wasted your money. A chest protector/air vest is the one critical thing we lack. Hey, how much do we waste on more frivolous things?

So those who know me realize that when I think I have a fair and sensible argument, I'll breach a somewhat controversial subject. That said, we know being a motorcyclist makes little sense to those who don't ride and perfect sense to us. Next time we can talk helmet laws, politics and religion just for giggles. Hope to see you out there.

BIRTHDAYS



March

- 4 Frank Monteleone
- 11 Dale Beloff
- 11 Bob Bennett
- 17 Candy Kohl
- 19 Jim Wells
- 25 Alice Giunta
- 25 William White
- 29 Pat Moore
- 31 Keith Silva

April

- 1 Karen Secchiutti
- 2 Catherine Visconti
- 5 Gavin Webster
- 19 Alice Dougherty
- 19 Wayne Sikorski
- 29 Jim Dougherty



*Thank you, Claudine
Gallagher, for all the excellent
photography found on our
Facebook page!*

Staggered Formation & the Two-Second Rule

A Hybrid Procedure for Safe Riding

The history of safe riding procedures dates back to the 1930s, and was established by the New Jersey State Motor Cops, the motorcycle patrol division of the New Jersey State Police.

The hybrid directive of “staggered formation” and the “two-second rule” is a beautiful system, enabling spirited riding while supplying a high degree of safety. Yet, after almost 100 years, many motorcyclists are still not aware of it. And of those who are aware of it, many fail to follow it. But it works! So here goes

Staggered Formation

I submit that the television series “*CHiPs*” *California Highway Patrol* (1977-83) did a gross disservice to motorcycling safety. The image of Ponch and Jon riding the freeways side-by-side at high speeds was misrepresentative and irresponsible to say the least. Riding side-by-side is not about trusting the other rider. It is unsafe because if an obstacle should emergently appear, neither rider has room or time to react and swerve; the accident is inevitable.

Staggered Formation is simply just that. No side-by-side riding while in motion. And no passing. Riders are to remain staggered except when stopped. If the stagger gets disrupted, riders are to re-adjust their position so as to recreate staggered formation. On very narrow roads or slippery conditions, riders may go to single file but should increase the gap to allow more space in front.

Two-Second Rule

The two-second rule creates the proper distance between riders, and like “staggered formation”, drastically reduces the likelihood of a collision by creating a time/space. It self-adjusts to work effectively at all speeds. It mechanically creates:

At 15 MPH, a 44 foot gap to the rider in front in your lane
(and a 22 foot gap to the rider at your flank)

At 30 MPH, a 88 foot gap to the rider in front in your lane

At 45 MPH, a 132 foot gap to the rider in front in your lane

At 60 MPH, a 176 foot gap to the rider in front in your lane

But how is it done? Watch the rider in front (in your lane: not to your flank). Mark the instant when that rider transects with an object: for example a tree, utility pole or road sign. Then begin a relaxed count “*one mississippi / two mississippi*”. Once you finish your count, you should be intersecting with that same object. Try it. In short order you will be doing it subconsciously, always maintaining the proper gap, and increasing your chances of survival, as well as those of the rider in front and in back of you. Ride safe by riding smart.

SMILES AND SMILES TO GO



FACEBOOK **Retreads of South Jersey**



Wherever you go, take a smile with you.